

Anaconda Smelter Site

Anaconda, Montana

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Community Issues

- Community leaders have expressed concern that the cleanup within the community is inadequate, including:
 1. Soil arsenic and lead action levels
 2. Attic dust cleanup
 3. Schools and parks
- Based on the Montana Constitution, leadership believes that private property should be restored (i.e., cleanup to background). The community of Opportunity is currently suing Atlantic Richfield under this provision.
- Community leaders believe Atlantic Richfield should do more to help redevelop the community. Barriers to redevelopment include:
 1. Lack of infrastructure
 2. Lack of developable space
 3. Lack of development capital

Why is the cleanup in Anaconda use lower action levels than SBCBA?

- Anaconda action levels are different from other sites because they are based on site specific conditions such as potential exposure, bioavailability, etc

Is there contamination in Butte as a result of the historic Anaconda smelter?

- EPA has not seen data to indicate contamination from the Anaconda Smelter impacted Butte.

Why has the cleanup there been inadequate especially as it relates to soil and attic dust cleanup (round 1 arsenic and round 2 lead) and addressing potential risks at schools and parks?

- AR, under EPA order, has implemented sampling and abatement of residential areas for arsenic and is now implementing further sampling of residential yards and attics for lead.
 - The goal is to sample and clean up all yards over 5 years. There is a schedule and residents can request. Homes with children are prioritized.
 - Although schools were not tested previously for arsenic, all schools are included in the current cleanup plan for lead. The first schools are scheduled to be sampled this fall.
 - EPA will investigate immediately if any information should come to light that suggests that people are potentially exposed in schools to harmful contamination as a result of historic smelting activities.

EPA will also investigate any specific areas of public concern in schools during the next Five Year Review scheduled for 2020.

Cleanup Status

- Cleanup has been ongoing since late 1980's
- Over \$350 million has been spent on cleanup to date.
- Nearly 1000 residential and commercial properties have been cleaned up to date, with another 1000 to be completed in the next three+ years.
- All domestic wells and/or water supplies have either been tested and/or remediated (treatment units) within the site. Wells will be continued to be sampled/treated.
- Over 3 million cubic yards of waste have been removed from the community and consolidated onto Atlantic Richfield property.
- Over 5000 acres of the former smelter facility and disposal areas have been capped and revegetated.

- Nearly 1000 acres of new wetlands have been constructed and another 5000 acres protected.
- Over 12,000 acres of adjacent contaminated soils have been reclaimed and now support wildlife and provide for grazing lands.
- 140,000 feet of stormwater controls have been placed to reduce contaminated sediments from impacting streams, and
- 30,000 feet of stream have been restored providing for a high-quality fishery.
- Cleanup work was coordinated with development to provide:
 1. Jack Nicklaus Golf Course
 2. Regional Prison Facility
 3. Peak Power Generating Plant
 4. Campus complex; and
 5. Additional residential and commercial developments
- The remedy allows the reuse of slag materials as a commercial product. A processing facility is currently being constructed to turn slag into proppant and pig iron.

The site consists of multiple areas, referred to by EPA as operable units (OUs).

- OU15, Mill Creek: The remedy selected in 1987, included permanently relocating all Mill Creek residents, removing demolition debris and contaminated soils for later disposal, regrading and replanting areas disturbed by relocation/demolition activities, monitoring and maintaining the vegetation, and controlling access to the area. Construction of the remedy finished in late 1988. Operation and maintenance activities are ongoing.
- OU11, Flue Dust: The remedy selected in 1991, included stabilization of about 316,500 cubic yards of flue dust, placement of the treated materials in an engineered repository, long-term maintenance and monitoring, and institutional controls. The remedy required that the repository include a liner, leak detection and collection system, groundwater monitoring wells, and a cap. Construction of the remedy finished in September 1996. Operation and maintenance activities are ongoing.
- OU7, Old Works/East Anaconda Development Area: The remedy selected in 1994, included placement of engineered covers over waste, treatment of soils, surface water controls, upgrades or repairs to streambank levees, replacement or repairs to bridges, institutional controls, long-term monitoring and preservation of historic features. OU7 consists of six subareas. Construction is complete at five of the six areas. Construction at the sixth area, the Industrial Area, is nearly complete.
- OU16, Community Soils: The remedy for residential soils, selected in 1996 and modified in 2013, included removal of arsenic-contaminated soils and replacement with clean soil. This remedy also called for the cleanup of future residential soils through institutional controls. The remedy for commercial/industrial areas and the active railroad area included placement of engineered covers. Construction of the remedy was finished in 2010. Operation and maintenance activities are ongoing.
- The 2013 modification to the Community Soils remedy, included cleanup of lead-contaminated residential soil, expanding the institutional controls program and development of an interior dust abatement program. Implementation of this remedy began in 2015 and is ongoing.
- OU4, Anaconda Regional Water, Waste and Soil: The remedy selected in 1998 and modified in 2011 included consolidation of miscellaneous waste materials, placement of engineered covers over waste management areas, treatment of contaminated soils, storm water controls and institutional controls, including the monitoring and regulation of domestic wells in groundwater areas. A Technical Impracticability Waiver for arsenic in groundwater has been applied to large areas of the site. The OU consists of 15 subareas. Remedial action is ongoing at most of the subareas. Over 10,000 acres have been remediated to date. Construction is expected to be completed over the next 10 years.